

## A RICH COUNTRY.

**Cattle Raising Portion of the State**  
**-The Social Condition of the**  
**People-Political Points.**

MOOREFIELD, W. Va., Oct 21.—I have been in the beautiful South Branch Valley for three days. The longer one stays the more he is sure to become a

ased with the loveliness of the mountain scenery which encloses it, or to the physical beauty of the valley itself. Greatly improved farms are everywhere. There is scarcely an acre of unproductive land while the rising fertility

unexcelled anywhere in the State, literally a country about which man has said, "Nature has bestowed upon it her most plentiful favors." Of the people it can be said that they are thrifty, hospitable, enterprising. On every hand are the evidences of their thrift and enterprise—handsome mansion-houses, surrounding broad acres of rich, improved land, d

have but to enter their portals to be convinced that old time Virginia hospitality awaits you. Unlike the broader and more famous bay of Virginia which lies just beyond the mountains that tower in the east, the rhon aristocracy does not hold sway here. Personal worth is the standard by which a citizen is measured.

responsibility, and sturdy pedigrees is  
for consideration. There is a prevail-  
ing sense of the public spiritedness on the  
part of the citizens of this portion of the  
county which characterizes many sections  
of the North and particularly of Western  
Pennsylvania. There is much wealth  
in Hardy county, and it is not  
unduly hoarded. Neither is it spent in  
extraneous living. It is in the hands of pro-  
ductive farmers and cattle grazers  
who expend it wisely in im-  
proving their farms, developing their

**CATTLE GRAZING.** The principal occupation of the people is cattle grazing. On the splendid bottom land is raised the forage and such agricultural products as are sufficient for home consumption; on the hills and mountains graze the herds. And herds of more than twenty miles from the nearest railroad, quietly and peacefully like inhabitants of olden times.

perous and happy people. Of late years there has been some complaint owing to the prevailing depression in the cattle markets of the east, but the grumble is usually coupled with an expression of hope that next year it will be much improved.

The stranger who visits this section of the State it is a source of much wonder to find that the capitalists have not yet realized the necessities and advantages of the territory and build a railroad through the Rich Branch Valley. Three different roads it is true, are projected, but none of them is in course of construction. A road is daily needed.

attention to the almost unexcelled cultural interests, and the cattle enterprise mentioned above, there are undeveloped natural resources which are destined to make this one of the wealthiest regions of the country. For instance, in the sight of the village of Moorefield, which there is no prettier town in the State, is the great "Iron Mountain." Geologists say it is almost a solid bed of ore of the rarest quality. It is pointed out by the citizens here as the source of wealth for the future. So much has been said about it, that it is now the

say more than that if it be true that a veritable "iron mountain," it will be a source of wealth "when the road comes," for it extends for eight or ten miles southward through a large portion of the county. Grant and Pendleton counties. In the letter I cannot detail one-twentieth of the interesting things that might be seen about these three counties.

week spent in Moundfield could not be an enjoyable one. Here is the speech of Senator Joseph Vannoy, made at Moundfield, Ind., last night. His famous short horns have been much written about. He is a progressive farmer and cattle-grazer. He stands a short distance East of town, just at the foot of the South Branch, and, it is said, no man in West Virginia lives better or enjoys life more than he. He has lost his political voice to say he has lost his political voice.

He was the other day defeated for the State Senate in the Democratic Convention by General George E. Price. He is nepologed on the Senatorial position, while "Governor Jos" had announced that he would not be re-nominalized Camden. Most of the leadership are friends of Camden, and it is believed that they "downed" the venerable Democratic war-horse with malice aforethought. Chipley, the candidate for the Legislature, if elected, will represent both Camden and Grant. The Democratic

about 300, and his election is beyond any serious doubt. There is some dissatisfaction about his nomination. He, also, is unpledged.

He is a company with Colonel Jacob W. Cunningham, who is, by the way, somewhat of a good fellow, barring his political tag-to-day one of the leading enterprises in the State—one which bids fair to rival the famous horse farms of Kentucky.

A ROMANTIC STORY.

More than twenty years ago, there was a clerk in the Treasury Department at Washington, by the name of Colonel John Fisher. He was a native of Ohio.

tion man and went to reside in Wash-  
ington city. There he married, and be-  
came the father of a beautiful  
daughter whom he called Eanthe. She  
grew to womanhood in the Capital city,  
and was wooed and won by Henry Eng-  
el, the manager and principal owner  
of the famous Brighton Beach race track,  
Long Island, New York. In a short  
season was born to the couple. The child  
he named him William, and he became  
the sole heir to the immense fortune  
which had made at Brighton Beach. Eng-

ingly inherited the fortune, together with a one-third interest in Bright's land. The will directed that the money should be invested in undeveloped lands which were to be improved for the benefit of the young heir. The expenditures to be provided, were to be made under the direction of William's grandfather, Col. Fisher above mentioned, who likewise appointed guardian—a situation having meanwhile occurred between Engeman and his wife, the boy's mother.

...the money according to the provisions of his will, Col. Fisher bequeathed himself of his native country, Hardy. He came to Meigs, and within a mile of the town purchased a magnificent farm, and began the work of "developing" it. It occurred to him that by reason of the splendid game facilities of the South Branch Valley and its beautiful location, he might make